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HOW DOES THE OTHER HALF LIVE?

Despite the sustained efforts of many public-spirited groups and individuals in support of the Mutual Security legislation this year, members of Congress report that the great weight of public opinion as expressed to them was in favor of drastic cuts in funds for this program. This raises some serious questions for all of us.

Are Americans tiring of the defense load, including "foreign aid"? Have the cost of living and the tax burden made them reluctant to see their dollars go overseas?

Can it be that the Mutual Security Program is still not understood? This seems hard to believe. Indeed, certain kinds of aid, offered through the Mutual Security Program of the United States and through the United Nations, have captured the imagination and the wholehearted support of the American people and have laid the base for fundamental economic growth in the less developed countries.



SEEING IS BELIEVING

Americans living abroad who have seen the Mutual Security Program in action have testified to its efficacy. Without the program, they say, there might have been Communist revolutions in Iran and the Philippines and general starvation in Japan.

The impact of the program, they

believe, has been very great in Western Europe, where foreign aid is generally credited with the rebuilding of British and Western European industry and the recreating of a viable European economy. Aid has contributed to economic development in Egypt and India and has been crucial to Korea.

Special enthusiasm has been expressed by Americans overseas for the cooperative, technical assistance type of program designed to increase the technical capabilities of a nation rather than to have an immediate massive economic impact.

AROUND THE WORLD

A glance at the U.N. 1956 report on technical assistance is a fascinating hop around the world. Here is a world-wide sharing of skills. An expert from France is giving technical training to industrial workers in Brazil. A Brazilian specialist has, in turn, been sent to Ecuador to undertake a soils survey. An Ecuadorian doctor is in India helping to train maternal and child health nurses. An Indian biochemist has been assigned to Iraq. An Iraqi educator is taking part in an adult education project in Libya.

A fruit and vegetable expert from Israel served in Guatemala. An expert in technical education from New Zealand served in Trinidad. An expert on cooperatives and handicrafts from Sweden worked in Ceylon. A TB-control expert from Argentina assisted the government of Burma. Six dairy experts from Denmark served in Chile, Colombia, and El Salvador.

Exchange of persons obviously fosters exchange of ideas. These exchanges and the personal relationships which develop between experts of different countries, between experts and the peoples among whom they live and work, increase knowledge, broaden outlooks and deepen understanding.

U.N. technical assistance, in 1956, with \$28,185,791 (\$14,419,430 of which was contributed by the United States), furnished assistance to more than 100 countries and territories. Added to this U.N. program of assistance are other aid programs initiated and handled by individual nations or groups of nations.

U.S. technical cooperation, in fiscal 1957, with an appropriation of \$135,000,000, furnished assistance to 60 countries, including especially India, Iran, Indonesia, the Philippines, Korea, Vietnam and Thailand. In all the countries American knowledge, experience, techniques and skills were shared in the fields of agriculture, education, health, industry, public administration, transportation, community development and labor.

A LOOK AT INDIA

The lives of 82 million rural people in India have been affected by American-aided projects in the field of community development. News of what has been accomplished in 127,000 villages has spread abroad. The example of India has stimulated similar programs in the field of community development in Pakistan, the Philippines, and Thailand.

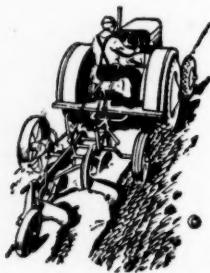
The tangible results of these projects in India include the recla-

mation and irrigation of hundreds of thousands of acres of land, the establishment of new schools and adult education centers, as well as the building of 28,000 miles of new roads. There have been significant results in development of a basis for local democratic government.

The governments of both the United States and India are, through these projects, contributing to the solution of what is essentially a human problem—how to change the outlook of Indian families living in the countryside, how to arouse enthusiasm in them for new knowledge, how to fill them with the ambition and the will to live a better life. U. S. funds are being used to obtain jeeps for use in reaching Indian villages, for tractors to be used in road building, for agricultural demonstration equipment, for mobile cinema units to be used in instruction in villages, and for many other purposes.

HOW U.S. HAS HELPED

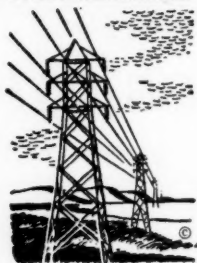
The Mutual Security Program of the United States has aided India's economic growth through both technical cooperation and development assistance. Initially American assistance was for the most part devoted to supplementing the country's resources in order to increase agricultural production, since India's First Five Year Plan emphasized the expansion of agriculture, the improvement of farm methods and of the quality of products, increased employment, and a rise in the general standard of living.



India's progress in developing its economy has been encouraging. National income, food grain and industrial production have increased. The significance of the advances can be appraised only by realization of the low standard base from which they progressed (India's standard of living is one of the lowest in the world). These advances can be attributed to the

intensive efforts made from 1951 to 1956.

India's Second Five Year Plan, inaugurated in April 1956, concentrates upon nonagricultural industry, particularly heavy industries producing machines and equipment, and small ones producing consumer goods. American assistance in India, since 1954, has been extended to the fields of industrial development, transportation and communications.



In spite of the progress made during the past six years, India today faces a very drastic situation. Foreign exchange reserves have dropped sharply as a result of imports of food grains (necessitated in part by droughts and floods) and of machinery for new industries. India's present economic plan faces failure and economic development will have to suffer cutbacks unless the country can obtain the substantial foreign private and public investment loans which Finance Minister T. T. Krishnamachari is trying to negotiate in the United States, Great Britain and Western Germany.

In view of this year's drastic cuts in the Mutual Security Program and the economy-mindedness of Congress and the general public, prospects seem unfavorable for India to receive more financial assistance from the U.S. government and from banks and private investors.

WHAT IS INVOLVED

Yet there is a vital interest of the Western world involved in aid to India.

South Asia (of which region India is the largest country and the country having the greatest industrial potential) is now, and will be in the future, of great concern to the United States and to the peace and prosperity of the world. The countries of South Asia are potentially a source of great strength to the free world. But

they are currently an area of dangerous weakness, by reason of their economic backwardness. Unless they can make rapid progress in building up their economic strength, they may fall prey to internal or external Communist influence.

The West can help the Indians to forge ahead of the Chinese in the race for rapid industrialization which is now going on between India, a democratic state, and China, a totalitarian state. The West can show all of Asia what the imagination and energies of free men can accomplish. Aid to help India achieve her aspirations for economic and social progress offers the best chance the West has of demonstrating the superiority of free institutions over the methods of dictatorship. We cannot afford to lose South Asia to the Soviet and Communist China bloc.

HOW WILL U.S. HELP?

It is against this background that India's request (the first since the 1951 wheat loan) for U. S. private and public loans needs to be studied. If congressional authorization is required for the loan which India is seeking from the U. S. government, the Administration would have to introduce special priority loan-to-India legislation early in the next session of Congress. And American business would have to be encouraged to invest in long-term contracts. India, on September 19, symbolized her wish to attract American private investment by signing an agreement which permits the United States to guarantee American private investors that their profits and their original investment in India can be converted into dollars.

Foreign aid (including loans to India, technical cooperation and development assistance to newly independent and less developed countries) needs the patient and persistent efforts of public-spirited people. The orderly development of aid programs ought to go forward so that what has already been accomplished will not be lost, so that what is still needed can be undertaken. Foreign aid offers a unique opportunity to use American technical and economic resources in the interest of world peace and prosperity.

Where Do YOU Live?

Queen Elizabeth I of England once decreed that London should grow no larger. Her successor, James I, also tried to stop its growth, by the same method. When the reign of the one ended and the other's began, the population of London was about 200,000. With the figure at nearly 8.5 million today, it is obvious that their decrees were ignored.

People like to choose where they live. Nowhere is this more true than in the United States, where every year 30 million people change their residence. In the past 100 years the population has made a steady shift from rural to urban. Especially in the past 15 to 20 years, and at an increasing rate, there has also been a shift from the city to the suburbs. Most recently, the flight from the city to suburbia seems to be ending.

Whatever the exact percentages, the migration has concentrated nearly two thirds of the nation's population in metropolitan areas. It

is estimated that by 1975 only one fifteenth of the nation's projected population of 227 million will live on farms.

DEFINITION OF A CITY

How big is the city you live in or near? If it is between Maine and Virginia, you are living in a "strip city"—an urban region—a "megalopolis"—600 miles long. You may not have thought about it, but between Greater Boston, Massachusetts, and Greater Washington, D. C., there are only two stretches—one of two miles and the other of 17 miles—not a part of a metropolitan area.

A metropolitan area consists of a county containing at least one city of 50,000 or more population, or several adjoining counties containing such cities; the definition includes contiguous counties which are essentially metropolitan in character. Under this definition there are 174 metropolitan areas in the United States.

An urban region is defined as an

expanse in which two or more standard metropolitan areas overlap or adjoin. By this definition there are 18 great urban regions in this country. Of the 174 metropolitan areas, 77 are in these 18 urban regions. Key cities of a few of the largest will bring the regions to mind—Chicago, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Detroit, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Seattle.

Finally, projecting into the 1980s, experts predict merging of urban regions with urban regions until we have 14 gigantic strip cities, comprising 60 percent of our population.

In the above-mentioned 600-mile strip city between Maine and Virginia live 32 million people—21 percent of the country's population, living on less than four percent of our total land area. And this "city" is still expanding. Luther Gulick, head of the Institute of Public Administration, has predicted that in the next 50 years there will be a solid settlement extending from Boston perhaps as far south as Newport News, Virginia, as far west as Chicago or even Kansas City, with manufacturing centers in what are now the forests of Kentucky and Tennessee.

Other urban regions already in the making in the South, Southwest, and West are expected to grow until, for example, perhaps all of Florida's east coast and most of its peninsular west coast make up one "city"; five metropolitan areas in Texas—Fort Worth, Dallas, Houston, Galveston, San Antonio—might be another "strip city."

WHOSE BUSINESS IS IT?

What kind of government will be feasible for such regions?

Let us look at government as it has been functioning in two areas, for example. In metropolitan Seattle, there are 17 types of governmental jurisdiction. Until Miami and Dade County became one metropolitan area recently, six bus lines were operating there on separate schedules, there were 71 separate sewer systems, and if a plumber wished to operate throughout the county he needed 27 different licenses.

Whose business is it to settle the metropolitan problem? The city's? The state's? The federal government's?

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Form of Bequest

For the convenience of those who wish to remember the League of Women Voters in their wills, this form of bequest is suggested:

I hereby give and bequeath the sum of dollars to the League of Women Voters of the United States, a corporation organized September 15, 1923, under the laws of the District of Columbia.

Bequest-giving is not limited to persons with large fortunes. An increasing flow of modest bequests can be an important asset to any organization. Whatever the size of your bequest, it can benefit thousands. Future generations will be better citizens because you have decided

..... TO HELP THE
LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

Various studies are under way—a minimum of 174, it is estimated, for probably every metropolitan area is making its own.

A federal Cabinet department has been suggested. If there is a Department of Agriculture for the dwindling farm population, why not a "Department of Urbanism" for the urban population which comprises 65 percent of the total, say proponents of this proposal.

The Kestnbaum Commission on Governmental Relations made an extensive examination of inter-governmental relations in 1955. While it was primarily concerned with federal-state relations, this Commission did make a few recommendations in the metropolitan field.

In general, the Commission concluded that the federal government's chief obligation in the metropolitan problem is to facilitate state action. Specifically, it suggested that the federal government make an analysis of the impact of its activities on metropolitan areas, and that the grants-in-aid programs be examined to

The metropolitan problem touches the League closely. "Structure of government"—"community basis of organization"—are bywords, the one in the work of the League, the other in its organization pattern.

The strength and vitality of the League lie in the performance of the more than 1000 local Leagues. The organization of the local League is keyed to the organization of local government.

What is the role of the citizen today in representative government? How can the League best gear itself for effective work within the changing patterns of local government?

These are two questions being asked in a series of regional conferences now going on. The first was held in Washington, D. C., in September. Others were held in October in Minneapolis, Salt Lake City, and Dallas, with the final one again in Washington. Representatives from Leagues in all 48 states were included among the five.

The conferences have been held to explore possibilities for more effective League service to members and to the community, but inevitably much of the discussion has turned around the focal point of the nature of "local government" itself. It is hoped that the thinking and discussions which developed out of the conferences will make some contribution to the larger subject, the evolution in government structure.



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make sure that the federal government does not add to the complexity of the problem by prolonging the lives of local units of government which have outlived their usefulness.

Since the Kestnbaum report, President Eisenhower has designated Howard Pyle, former Governor of Arizona, as deputy assistant to the President for intergovernmental relations, and has assigned Robert E. Merriam, assistant director of the Bureau of the Budget, specific responsibilities in the field of metropolitan area problems.

Also, President Eisenhower proposed at the 1957 Governors Conference in Williamsburg, Virginia, that a joint federal-state "action committee" be appointed, and the Governors accepted the idea. The committee, composed of 10 Governors appointed by the Conference and seven federal representatives appointed by the President, is now in existence.

Congress, too, is aware of the problem. The Subcommittee on Intergovernmental Relations of the House Committee on Government Operations, under the chairmanship of Representative Fountain (D., N. C.), has undertaken a study, and hopes to have its report ready by the spring of 1958.

As long ago as 1942, Charles E. Merriam, noted political scientist, called for a "bureau or department of urbanism" in the federal government. Recent Congresses have contained a number of outspoken proponents of this idea, and several bills have been dropped into the hopper. Three such bills have been introduced in the present Congress, two in the House and one in the Senate. All three have been vigorously supported by such groups as the American Municipal Association, National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials, National Housing Conference and

American Society of Planning Officials.

Opponents of such legislation say that creation of a Cabinet department would beg the important question: "What is the federal government's proper role in urban areas?"

The *National Municipal Review* recently said: "While there has long been vague recognition that the federal government has an impact on the development of metropolitan areas, no consensus has been reached as to what should be done about it. . . . A policy must be developed."

Addressing himself to the metropolitan problem, Walter W. Belson, assistant to the president of the American Trucking Associations, said a few months ago: "Everything indicates that we are rapidly approaching the point of no return. Unless someone takes positive and aggressive action soon to do some comprehensive planning, our long strip cities will become a hodgepodge of congestion, poor land use and impractical and inefficient educational, civic and governmental administration."

Who is that "someone"?

Publisher's Statement

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DOROTHY FELKER GIRTTON, Editor
Sworn to and subscribed before me this first day of October, 1957.

[Seal] NINA G. BOYKIN

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